

Serial No. 09/893,598
Docket No. 01USFP644-M.K.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) ~~The semiconductor circuit system according to claim 1~~ A semiconductor circuit system comprising:

a first signal line; and

n circuit sections, where n is an integer greater than 2, each of which includes an input terminal and an output terminal,

wherein said input terminals of only predetermined k ones of said n circuit sections are connected to said first signal line, where k is an integer equal to or greater than 2 and less than n, and said output terminal of an mth one of said n circuit sections is connected to said input terminal of an (m+k)th one of said n circuit sections, where m is an integer varying between 1 and n-k, thereby k of said n circuit sections are activated at a given time, and

wherein each of said n circuit sections comprises:

a plurality of differential input circuits;

a plurality of register circuits connected to output terminals of said plurality of differential input circuits, respectively; and

a control circuit including a latch circuit, said control circuit connected with at least one of said plurality of register circuits as a specific register circuit and said plurality of differential input circuits,

wherein said specific register circuit executes a predetermined operation using a first signal outputted from a corresponding one of said plurality of differential input

Serial No. 09/893,598
Docket No. 01USFP644-M.K.

circuits, and outputs a second signal to said latch circuit when the operation ends, and
said control circuit activates said plurality of differential input circuits in
response to a third signal to operate and stops the operations of said plurality of
differential input circuits in response to said second signal.

7. (Previously presented) The semiconductor circuit system according to claim 6,
wherein:

said plurality of register circuits comprises at least one set of registers and at least one
set of data registers, and

said specific register circuit includes said set of registers.

8. (Original) The semiconductor circuit system according to claim 7, wherein each of
said registers outputs a pulse signal to a corresponding one of said data registers when said
first signal is supplied, such that data are written in a corresponding one of said data registers,
and propagates said first signal to a next one of said registers which is connected to said
register, and

a last one of said registers outputs said first signal as said second signal.

9. (Original) The semiconductor circuit system according to claim 6, wherein said
control circuit comprises:

a first latch which latches said second signal;

a second latch which is set in response to said third signal and is reset in response to

Serial No. 09/893,598

Docket No. 01USFP644-M.K.

said second signal latched by said first latch; and

a switch which activates said plurality of differential input circuits when said second latch is set and inactivates said plurality of differential input circuits when said second latch is reset.

10 (Currently amended) The semiconductor circuit is configured to:

BEST AVAILABLE COPY